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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 001675

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [KCFE](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [TU](#)

SUBJECT: GOT'S COUNTERPROPOSAL ON CFE INSPECTION PROCEDURES

REF: A) SECSTATE 6149 B) 03 ANKARA 6909

1. (U) This is an action request. See para 4.

2. (U) On March 18, MFA Head of Department for Disarmament Affairs, Bulent Meric delivered the GOT's counter proposal for the CFE host country agreement proposal that was conveyed to the Turks (ref. A). The body of the letter as follows.

3. (C) Begin text.

With regard to Washington's amendment proposals on the draft Turkey-U.S. Bilateral Cooperation Agreement on CFE Treaty Inspections, please find here below the comments of our relevant authorities on the proposed amendments:

A) Comment 1: U.S. proposal to replace the phrase "for the covered equipment and facilities" in various parts of the text, with the phrase "of a site or specified area that contains U.S. equipment or facilities" can unfortunately not be acceptable.

Rationale: The phrase "for covered equipment and facilities" is in fact originally a U.S. proposal which was later accepted by Turkey.

The proposed new phrase does not fit in the main thrust of the draft text. On the other hand, since there is only one site (Incirlik/Adana) which contains U.S. equipment or facilities, subject to CFE inspections, there is no need to mention the site and type of inspections in the text.

Proposal: Turkey is in favor of maintaining the phrase "for the covered equipment and facilities" in the text. If U.S. has strong views in rephrasing, we propose to revert to the original working in the text agreed upon at referendum on 5 April 2001, which is "of conventional armaments and equipment subject to the CFE Treaty belonging to the United States of America, of equipment and materiel belonging to the United States of America, and of structures or premises utilized by the United States of America by agreement with the Republic of Turkey present on the territory of the Republic of Turkey".

B) Comment 2: Turkey agrees on the second U.S. proposal to replace the phrase "on the conventional armaments and equipment limited by the CFE Treaty" with "on the conventional armaments and equipment subject to the CFE Treaty."

End of Text.

4. (U) Embassy would appreciate Washington's reaction as soon as possible.
EDELMAN